



## U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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### **OPERATION STREETSWEEPER**

#### **LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS MAN AND MANCHESTER, NH WOMAN PLEAD GUILTY TO SELLING CRACK IN MANCHESTER**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** -- **Augustin Damian**, age 28, has pleaded guilty to distributing crack and powder cocaine. During a hearing in U.S. District Court earlier this afternoon, Damian admitted that he sold cocaine base ("crack") to undercover Manchester police officers on October 22 and 23, November 16, 29 and 30, and December 13, 2004, and that he sold powder cocaine to undercover police officers on November 30 and December 2, 2004.

When Damian is sentenced by Chief United States District Court Judge Steven McAuliffe on July 28, 2006, he could receive a prison sentence of up to 20 years and be fined up to \$1 million for each offense of conviction.

**Deborah Poirier**, a 46-year-old resident of 242 Cedar Street in Manchester, has pleaded guilty to distributing crack. During her hearing this afternoon, Poirier admitted that she sold cocaine base ("crack") to undercover Manchester police officers on November 16, 19 and 23, 2004.

When Poirier is sentenced by United States District Court Judge Joseph DiClerico on July 17, 2006, she could receive a prison sentence of up to 20 years and be fined up to \$1 million for each offense of conviction.

The successful prosecution of this case resulted from the collaborative efforts of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force and the Manchester Police Department as part of Operation Streetsweeper. Operation Streetsweeper targets street dealers of illicit drugs in New Hampshire's largest cities for investigation and prosecution as a means of removing these individuals from the public and preventing urban neighborhoods from falling victim to those who may seek to sell drugs. Operation Streetsweeper exposes defendants to longer sentences under the federal sentencing system than the defendants might face under the state system. The goal of this program is to use the longer federal sentences to deter those who might engage in the illicit sale of drugs.

The case was investigated by the Manchester Police Department and the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force. These cases were prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Kinsella.